

REMARKS

The Official Action of November 26, 2004, and the prior art cited and relied upon therein have been carefully studied. Favorable reconsideration and such allowance are respectfully urged.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for his indication that claims 1, 5 and 6 have been allowed. Only claims 4 and 7 remain in the application for consideration.

The Examiner has rejected claims 4 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hitomi '130. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection especially as applied to claim 4 as clarified.

The Examiner indicates that bearing 17 of Hitomi is equivalent to Applicant's claimed guiding device and that a portion of it is received in opening 2C. As the Examiner will note, Applicant has amended claim 4 to clarify that the claimed guiding device is only intermittently received in the claimed opening without engaging the opening as the guiding device is driven reciprocally by the input portion.

In comparison, bearing 17 of Hitomi is fixed in opening 2C. As such, the engagement of bearing 17 in opening 2C does not serve to reduce the size of the Hitomi reel in the

Appn. No. 10/693,081
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Reply to Office Action of November 26, 2004

manner of the claimed reciprocating guiding device 35 and opening 26.

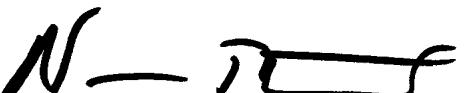
Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to claim 4 are only clarifying in nature and therefore do not raise new issues. Applicant believes that claim 4 and dependent claim 7 patentably define over Hitomi and that this application is now in condition for allowance.

The prior art documents made of record and not relied upon have been noted along with the implication that such documents are deemed by the PTO to be insufficiently pertinent to warrant their applications against any of applicant's claims.

Favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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